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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Taichi KOBAYASHI, et al.

Appln. No. 09/698,219

Group Art Unit: 1756

Confirmation No.: 6374

Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: October 30, 2000

For: METHOD FOR THE SURFACE TREATMENT OF A FLUORINE RESIN, METHOD
FOR MAKING A LAMINATE, AND A LAMINATE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby
notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached
Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability
of the claims of the above-identified application.

European Patent No. 0 939 441 A2, published September 1, 1999; and

European Patent No. 0 860 886 A2, published August 26, 1998.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three
months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution
application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the
merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

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request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicant also encloses herewith a copy of an English language Communication from the European Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English version of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 31, 2001